

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 9, under the heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS," with the following:

The present Application for Patent claims priority to Provisional Application No. 60/446,556, entitled "Article of Headwear," filed February 12, 2003, and hereby expressly incorporated by reference herein.

On p. 1, please delete lines 11-16.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 18, as follows:

The described embodiments relate ~~This invention relates~~ to a covering device, specifically to a garment that may function as a scarf and a head band combination, along with a method of [[so]] using the item covering device.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, at line 20, as follows:

There are a numerous warming devices for use as head, ear, neck and chest protectors. These devices are represented in part by: Thorpe U.S. Pat. No. 1,040,461 to Thorpe, in which discloses a cap and hood is shown which also covering covers the neck[[.]]; Schuessler U.S. Pat. No. 2,735,283 to Schuessler, which shows discloses a knitted cap structure with multiple means of attachments attachment[[.]]; Rubenstein et al. U.S. Pat. No. 3,509,580 to Rubenstein et al., which discloses a multipurpose dress accessory shows a versatile device that may be worn numerous ways[[.]] Frechmann et al. U.S. Pat. No. 3,935,597 to Frechmann et al., which discloses shows a wearing apparel hood which covers the head, front of the neck and a portion of the chest[[.]]; Cionni U.S. Pat. No. 5,038,412 to Cionni, which discloses shows a headband with earmuffs[[.]]; Ferguson et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5,115,517 to Ferguson et al., which discloses shows a scarf garment which covers the head, ears and neck[[.]]; and Dixon U.S. Pat. No. 6,640,342 to Dixon, which discloses shows a hat and scarf combination which covers the head, ears, neck and chest area. However, more comfortable covering devices that provide less disruption of the hair are desired.

Please delete in its entirety the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 4.

Please replace the entirety of the "BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION," beginning at page 3, line 12, with the following:

The described embodiments include improved articles of headwear, and methods of making and using articles of headwear.

In one embodiment, an article of headwear comprises a first fabric member configured to cover at least a portion of a neck of a person and a second fabric member configured to cover at least a portion of a head of the person. The first fabric member extends between a first end and a second end and has a first intermediate portion between the first end and the second end. The second fabric member extends between a third end and a fourth end. Further, the third end and the fourth end are both attachable to the first intermediate portion so as to define a rearward opening, wherein the rearward opening is sized to accept a rear portion of the head of the person.

In another embodiment, an article of headwear comprises a scarf member and a band member. The scarf member comprises a first intermediate portion that extends between a first end portion and a second end portion. The band member comprises a second intermediate portion that extends between a third end portion and a fourth end portion. Further, the third end portion and the fourth end portion are respectively attachable to the scarf member. Additionally, the band member further comprises a first edge opposing a second edge, where the first edge and the second edge each extend from the third end portion across the second intermediate portion to the fourth end portion. Further, the first edge has a first length and the second edge has a second length, where the first length is greater than the second length.

In yet another embodiment, an article of headwear comprises a first means for covering at least a portion of a neck of a person and a second means for covering at least a portion of each ear of the person without covering at least a predetermined rear portion of a head of the person. Further, the predetermined rear portion lies between the second means and the first means. Additionally, the second means is connectable to the first means.

In still another embodiment, the described embodiments relate to a covering device connected in a novel way which allows the device to adjust to the contour of an individual's proportions. The device includes a head band connected to a scarf portion. The head band has a

relatively narrow width at the top portion of the head and gradually widens to a relatively wider width that covers an individual's ears. The headband includes angled ends and is attached to the scarf portion at spaced points resulting in the covering device having an opening at the back of the head. The scarf portion may include a button hole type opening at one end through which the other end may be inserted, which enables the scarf to adjust to most sizes and to extend downward to cover a portion of the chest. The scarf portion can also be connected by an attachment placed at each opposite end portion, where in one embodiment the chest covering portion does not exist.

Additional aspects and advantages of the disclosed embodiments are set forth in part in the description which follows, and in part are obvious from the description, or may be learned by practice of the disclosed embodiments. The aspects and advantages of the disclosed embodiments may also be realized and attained by the means of the instrumentalities and combinations particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Please replace the entirety of the "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS," beginning at page 3, line 21, with the following:

The disclosed embodiments will hereinafter be described in conjunction with the appended drawings provided to illustrate and not to limit the disclosed embodiments, wherein like designations denote like elements, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of one embodiment of a scarf portion of a covering device;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of one embodiment of a headband portion of a covering device;

FIG. 3 is a left side view of one embodiment of the covering device;

FIG. 4 is a back side view of one embodiment of the covering device;

FIG. 5 is a front, perspective of one embodiment of a covering device, including attaching the scarf portion by insertion through a passageway; and

FIG. 6 is a side view of an embodiment of a covering device being worn by an individual, including another scarf portion attachment mechanism.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17 as follows:

Referring to FIG. 2, there There is provided an elongated strip of fabric FIG. 2 in which identical parts are identified with the same reference numeral. The scarf head band portion shown in FIG. 2, generally designated by the numeral 12, is formed by a generally hourglass fabric member having an intermediate portion 38, opposite side edges 40 and 42, a front edge 44, a back edge 46, an opposite end portions 48. The fabric members of 12 are joined together by a respective pair of first and second fabric layers. In the illustrated structure 12, each of the fabric portions 44 and 46 are secured together by a line of stitching along the interior of 40 and 42. The thickness width of the intermediate portion 38 is substantially less than the width of fabric portions 44, 46 and 48. Also referring to 12, fabric members are then turned so as a line of stitching 50 is applied to the exterior of fabric portions 12 to secure the elongated hourglass configuration. The length of 44 is preferably in the range of 9 3/8", whereas the length of 46 is preferably in the range of 9 7/8".

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 5 as follows:

The fabric member 12 is placed into the interior of member 10 (FIG. 1) of at the top portion 24 and at the opposite side edge 30, with the each back edge 46 of member 12 FIG. 2, respectively placed at one of points 16 of (FIG. 1), whereby member 10 of FIG. 1 and member 12 of FIG. 2 are joined together with a single seam leaving an opening of approximately 1" for turning to expose the exterior of the completed combination. In one embodiment, the The distance of FIG. 1 between the spaced points 16 will equal a space or opening at the back neck portion of the person's head of approximately 2 3/4". A topstitching is sewn around the complete edges of FIG. 1 reference 10 while also enclosing the 1" opening used for turning. The spaced points 16 of FIG. 1 are affixed slightly off center which aids in the unique fit of the headwear. This connection defines an attached scarf and headband.

On page 6, after line 4, please add the following:

Although there are various types of ear and neck warmers the present invention has been constructed to protect the ears in a comfortable manner without applying pressure on the head and the ears. The headband like shape results in less disruption of the hair and focuses on the

ears, neck and a portion of the chest area, allowing men, women and children an alternative method for warmth. The button hole and the alternate attachment device such as Velcro or any other attachment devices are strategically placed in positions that enable the present invention to be reversible and remain secure during most activities. A conventional hat may be worn over the present invention and the compact and flexible nature allows it to fit in a pocket.

Please replace the entirety of the "ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE," beginning at page 9, with the following:

An article of headwear includes a first fabric member configured to cover at least a portion of a neck of a person and a second fabric member configured to cover at least a portion of a head of the person. The first fabric member extends between a first end and a second end, and has a first intermediate portion between the first end and the second end. The second fabric member extends between a third end and a fourth end. Further, the third end and the fourth end are both attachable to the first intermediate portion so as to define a rearward opening, wherein the rearward opening is sized to accept a rear portion of the head of the person.